

A CALL TO YOUTH

PRINCESS ELIZABETH has given a clear call to Youth in this land and every land. Speaking the other day under the sign of the Red Cross—that symbol of succour and benevolence recognised throughout the world—the Princess exhorted the younger generation “to bind up the wounds of this sorrowing world.” She appealed to a large gathering of Britain's youth to carry on a great tradition, to make “the Cross that you wear on your hearts your standard of loving service.”

This call comes from one who already has manifested her intention to regard her life as one of service to the people. That dedication itself is a token of the high conception which the heir to the British throne has of the place of youth in the world today and tomorrow.

To bind up the wounds of those who (in the Princess's words) “are crossing the valley of sadness and desolation,” will be one of youth's prime responsibilities for many years. More people, for instance, are homeless now in all parts of the world than at any time in the world's history. There are some fifty millions in China, and another fourteen millions in Europe, a total weight of misery which cannot be lifted in a few months, or even a few years. The consequences of this unparalleled tragedy may continue to affect the life of the world throughout the lifetime of this generation, calling for supreme patience in those who are suffering and for unfailing heroism and fortitude in those who go forth to relieve their suffering.

THE Foreign Secretary has admitted that the sum of human sorrow in Europe alone is so great that no human machinery can disperse it immediately. That is a grim, heart-breaking fact for the world of youth to face. But it is in facing gigantic, overwhelming problems of this kind that youth finds its soul. Can we hope to see this resolution in the new generation of youth now nearing its full responsibilities? Can the daring deeds of war be wrought anew in peace for this sorely stricken world?

APSINGE'S FINE RECORD

APSINGE, a Mahratta village in the Satara district, is the proudest village in the Province of Bombay. Sir John Colville, the Governor of Bombay, has recently visited the village to congratulate its people on their splendid war record.

In the age groups of 18 to 40 nine out of every ten of the village's able-bodied men volunteered for service with the Colours. Eleven of them became Viceroy's Commissioned Officers, 20 became NCOs, and the rest sepoys (private soldiers).

Mahrattas have always been

famous as fighting men, but during the war they have excelled themselves. Many stories could be told of how cities, towns, and villages, in jungle, plain, and mountain have sent their quota of men to the aid of the King Emperor, but none finer than that of this village.

India's troops are drawn from many races. They are of all types and varying physique, but one and all they share the same indomitable qualities. They are simple men who, with military training, quickly develop a high sense of discipline and loyalty.

America Helps Finland

THIS summer American Friends sent one of their members, Douglas V. Steere, a Professor at Haverford, to Finland to see how far Americans could help Finland to recover from the ravages of war, as briefly mentioned in last week's CN. As a result of his report the American Friends Service Committee has decided to send eight workers to Finland this winter, and shipments of clothing and food for distribution by the official Finnish relief agency.

The particular schemes planned are the feeding of schoolchildren, the distribution of 10,000 pairs of shoes for schoolchildren, and the setting up of some “movable

barracks” to house the relief workers and, it is hoped, to serve as community centres. In theory, American Friends would like the whole work to be undertaken by Finns, but, says Douglas Steere, “the vast weariness of the few people engaged in social work in Finland and the apparent hopelessness of their task this winter, makes the theory weak before the fact.”

On hearing of the American plan, Jean Sibelius, the famous Finnish composer, wrote that his “heart resounded with gratitude towards the great American democracy and its kindhearted and generous citizens.”

Upon the answer to questions of this kind depends much of the future happiness of ordinary men and women. To bind up the wounds caused by hatred and death will be a long and tortuous undertaking if the divisions between the nations remain bitter and deep. Even now disillusionment and cynicism about the future are creeping in, and these are cankers which may easily frustrate all the plans for the peace of the world.

Only the buoyancy, vigour, and enthusiasm of youth can dispel our present gloom. But those qualities must be harnessed to practical tasks. Conferences, oratory, and the writing of books will not of themselves bind up the wounds of the world. Youth needs to work, to make friends, to forge unbreakable links of comradeship, if it is to succeed in making a world of peaceful nations.

And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations and they shall repair the waste cities. Long before the days of Christ, the Prophet Isaiah had this vision of achievement by one of the world's smaller peoples. It still remains in all its challenging purity, and the call now is to the youth of the whole world.

SELFISHNESS, greed, and national ambitions have been the forces which have brought the world to its present condition; but while seeking to instil a new spirit, we must bind up the wounds. Here, then, is the call to modern youth, and the practical tasks to make it effective are at hand. To bind up the world's wounds will offer adventure and danger of a calibre high enough to satisfy the most daring, and from it will come the first beginnings of a lasting peace on earth. Therein lie all our hopes.

*Our hope is in heroic men,
Star-led to build the world again;
To this event the ages ran:
Make way for brotherhood—make
way for man.*

A NEW KIND OF CLINIC

THE Public Health Committee of Ramsgate is determined that the problems and loneliness which afflict the last years of so many of their old people shall be modified. They have sponsored an Elderly People's Clinic, which is claimed to be the first of its kind in the country. This is proving a great success. It was the idea of Dr J. V. Walker, Ramsgate's Medical Officer of Health, who considered that the lives of many old people were shortened by worries, many of which could have been overcome by sympathetic help and advice.

While no medical treatment is given in the clinic itself, free medical examination is provided and often a serious illness is averted by early diagnosis and treatment. The medical officers encourage the patients to tell them their troubles in their own way and so this clinic requires much more time than, for instance, a school or post-natal clinic, but they consider it time very well spent. Many of the patients go away with their minds completely reassured, and most seem greatly to appreciate this service.

Public health authorities all over the country are interested in Ramsgate's fine example, and, we think, similar clinics in other towns might well be a grand bit of post-war social service.

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

EVERY
TUESDAY
3dPOSTAGE
Inland 1d
Abroad 4d
No 1392

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE



Europe's Scouts

It is reported from Europe that the Scout Movement is making splendid progress in all countries. The jolly lad above belongs to the heroic Greek Scouts whom the Germans were unable to disorganise when they occupied Greece.

THE WHITE FEATHER

ALTHOUGH letters still appear in the newspapers telling how, thanks to the generally mild autumn, a few stragglers have remained exceptionally late, the general exodus of our summer migrant birds has long been complete.

The multitude of strangers that have taken their place are birds that, having nested and reared their young in the north, have come here for their annual winter holiday; and soldiers from the New World quartered on our south and east coast, have seen the marvel of these comings and goings of the British birds, and they take home memories of beauty and mystery such as the vastness of their own lands prevents them from enjoying at home.

How many of these men knew, we wonder, that among the myriads of birds whose flight they watched were those that have given our language a phrase expressing a condition abhorred by all fighting men? That bird is the wheatear, which has a touch of white at the base of the tail and along the edge of the tail feathers. This is seen only when the bird rises alarmed into the air and so spreads its plumage as to “show the white feather.”

Undisturbed, the wheatear reveals no white; tested by fear it blazons this little banner of timidity and retreat, and so provides one of the suggested origins of an expression declaring a weakness that no soldier condones in his fellows.

Resettling the Fijians

COLONIAL peoples are just as busy as we are welcoming their soldiers home, and their Governments, like ours, are making plans to help them in their new life.

From the Fiji Islands comes news of a booklet which will be given to every member of the forces on his return from overseas. In it he will find much good advice and, what is even more important, offers of help in case of need. If he has been wounded, for instance, or has caught any illness due to war service, he will find that he can

have free medical treatment for as long as he needs it. If he was a farmer before the war and his tools have worn out, or a fisherman who needs new fishing gear, he will be given more as necessary. If he was still at school, however, or serving an apprenticeship in any trade, a grant of money will enable him to finish his training.

These are some of the ways in which the Government is showing its gratitude to the Fijian warriors for the heroic part they took in the fighting in the Pacific.

MONTY'S WINTER CAMPAIGN

ONE of the boldest experiments in the history of international co-operation. This is the phrase Field-Marshal Montgomery has applied to the Allied Control Council in Berlin.

The Field-Marshal, Britain's chief representative on the Control Council, was reviewing the work which it has done during its first six months.

As readers of the C.N. know, all Germany, including Berlin itself, has been divided into four zones of which each is administered by one of the four Allies, America, Britain, France, and Russia. Also, to secure the greatest possible measure of uniformity a central organisation with military and civilian staffs has been set up in Berlin. This is the Control Council of whose work the Field-Marshal has spoken so hopefully.

For he declared that the four-part machine was functioning even if not with full efficiency. Both he and his colleagues, General Eisenhower and Marshal Zhukov, in agreement in their aim that Germany should become an administrative whole at the earliest possible moment. The fourth member, General Kloetz for France, has expressed the view that this should not be hurried, objecting to the organisation of trade unions on a national basis.

As a practical man Field-Marshal Montgomery emphasised that the economic situation demanded early action by the four Powers. He stated that once agreement had been attained at the centre the present zonal barriers would be partly lowered in order to free the flow of commerce.

"If Germany is to be run as a whole," he said, "and if the administration of Germany is to be conducted by Germans working under Allied control, then clearly certain central administrative departments must be set up."

For himself, the Field-Marshal is hard at work in preparing for what he calls the Battle of the Winter, estimating the number of refugees into the British Zone who may number up to 8 million, deploying his troops to maintain order and assist the Military Government authorities in organising the supplies of food and coal, and taking steps to ward off fatal diseases.

A moderating figure in council, and a far-sighted organiser, the British representative will, we trust, win his winter campaign.

World Federation of Youth

THE establishment of a World Federation of Democratic Youth is the magnificent outcome to the World Youth Conference in London.

The Conference elected an Executive Committee and officers for the new Federation. The Chairman is to be M. Guy de Boysson, of the Union of Republican Youth of France. There are vice-chairmen from U.S., Russia, Britain, and China. The Conference ended in a

deeply inspiring manner. The whole assembly of delegates from 63 countries stood in homage while the leader of the American Delegation, Mr Joseph Engel, read this tribute to President Roosevelt.

"A great and gallant soldier—fallen in the fight of all freedom-loving people for a world of peace, justice, and international security. We pledge ourselves to work in the spirit of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt."

The Navy's Ships

MANY are the people who have wondered what the strength of the Royal Navy really is. The First Lord of the Admiralty drew aside the veil of secrecy the other day, in answer to a question in the House of Commons, though the figures given were not quite complete.

Mr Alexander said that the Navy now had 15 battleships, 13 aircraft carriers, 40 escort carriers, 47 cruisers, 225 destroyers, seven cutters, and 128 submarines. Of these, one battleship, three cruisers, 28 destroyers, and 15 submarines are on loan to other Navies, Dominion or Allied. Classes containing fewer than four ships are not mentioned, nor were frigates, sloops, corvettes, minesweepers, or smaller ships.

LUCKY THIRTEEN

HISTORY has repeated itself in the little Somerset village of Woolley—and in the happiest possible way.

From this sheltered spot in the lovely countryside near Bath 13 men went off to fight in the First World War. And when it was over they all came back!

Twenty years passed and 13 more heroes went forth from Woolley to serve their country in the Second World War. And again there is thankfulness in the hearts of all who dwell there, for those 13, too, all came back!

The Voice of Britain

IN a debate on foreign affairs in the House of Commons the other day Mr Bevin appealed to the Great Powers "to put their cards on the table, face upwards" and so promote the growth of confidence between nations.

Speaking of the development of atomic energy, the Foreign Secretary said that he was not too disturbed about it, and that the great goal, the only goal, and the only way was the building up of a world organisation capable, masterful, and united enough to hold in check the evolution of scientific discovery, and to make it the servant of man and not the master.

The obligations involved in the new charter of the United Nations were, Mr Bevin said, far wider than were ever undertaken by the League of Nations.

Mr Bevin regarded the great economic development, the lifting of the burden of the life of the people, as the most important element in foreign policy. To illustrate his point, the speaker said that he had often stood and watched little children in a park going to a fountain for a drink. The cups were hung on a chain, one drinks two cups, another drinks one. They never quarrel because there is enough water for both. "I think," added Mr Bevin, "that is true of the great productive capacity of the world. There need be no jealousy, no competition."

Mr Churchill, too, spoke eloquently in this debate. It would be a mistake, he said, to suppose that increasingly close and friendly relations between Britain and the United States implied an adverse outlook towards any other Power. "Our friendship may be special, but it is not exclusive," added the man who, more than anyone else, has promoted understanding between Britain and Russia, too.

TREASURE CHESTS FROM AMERICA

ENGLISH children who lost all their books through bombing are to share in the Treasure Chests of children's books which the Women's Council for Post-War Europe, with headquarters in New York, plans to send to the liberated countries.

People from all over America are contributing books, and the children of America are sending scrapbooks of American life; these contain invitations to the children of other lands to write to them, and each book has a personal inscription.

To many European children, these books are the first picture books they have seen, as the Nazis destroyed all books when they occupied their countries.

Seven English chests have been allotted to the National Association of Girls' Clubs and Mixed Clubs, and the Elizabeth Whitelaw Reid Club, Cloudestley Street, Islington, received the other day some of the first books to arrive in this country.

This Club was started in 1910 by Mrs Whitelaw Reid, wife of the then, American Ambassador in London. Her daughter, Lady Ward, is president of the club, and was present, together with several distinguished Americans, when the books were handed over.

WORLD NEWS REEL

THE BOAC's Lancastrian service has completed its 100th flight between Britain and Australia.

The record time for the sea journey between Bombay and Liverpool has been beaten by one day by the Canadian Pacific liner Empress of Scotland, which completed the trip in 13 days recently.

A substitute for radium is to be produced by the Canadian Government's atom bomb plant at Chalk River, Ontario.

British Council documentary films of British life, industries, and achievements are to be shown in the 522 primary schools of Buenos Aires.

In the search for mines in the Black Sea the Russians have used an airship.

Two new types of cars to be manufactured in Russia next year are the Muscovite, with a top speed of 65 m.p.h., and a bigger car, the Victory, with a top speed of 70 m.p.h. Russian factories plan to produce 1500 cars a day by 1950.

THE late Jerome Kern, famous American composer of light music, was also a collector of rare books. In 1929 he sold his library for a sum of nearly £350,000.

HOME NEWS REEL

WHEN a woman fell from Vauxhall Bridge into the Thames recently someone telephoned Scotland Yard by dialling 999 and within five minutes a police boat, warned by wireless, arrived and rescued her.

Over 250,000 people welcomed the King and Queen on their first visit to Birmingham since the war. In an address the King appealed to all to pull together and maintain the wartime spirit of service.

Early next year the Household Cavalry (Horse Guards and Life Guards) and the Brigade of Guards (footguards) will return to ceremonial full-dress uniform.

Last September 452 people were killed and 13,425 were injured on the roads in Britain—26 fewer deaths, but 3656 more injuries than in September, 1944.

A waterspout was seen off Dartmouth during a recent storm. This is a funnel-shaped cloud reaching down to the sea so that it resembles a tube joining the sea to the cloud.

About 13 million taxpayers are entitled to post-war credits for 1944-45. The sum is about £250,000,000.

THE last census of doctors showed that there is only one in general practice for every 2640 civilians.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

THE Scout Silver Cross has been awarded to Rover Scout Charles Green, aged 19, and to Patrol Leader George Johnston, 16, both of the 2nd Wallasey Sea Scout Group, for gallantry in rescuing a boy from drowning at Llanfairfechan.

Wolf Cub Roger Flower, of the 1st Bulford (Wiltshire) Pack, has been awarded the Gilt Cross in recognition of his gallantry in going to the assistance of an 8-year-old boy who was badly burned when he accidentally kicked a heavy-type phosphorus bomb.

During the Japanese occupation of Malaya many Scout

The report of a US Congress Committee of seven members who have been touring Europe states that financial aid to Britain and other European countries is necessary to repair the dislocations of war.

Corvettes of the Royal Canadian Navy, which cost about £120,000 to build, are being offered for sale at £5000.

It is likely that General MacArthur will impose a capital levy in Japan in order to reduce the power of the Japanese industrial monopolists.

An appeal has been made to Britain and America by M. Jan Masaryk, Czecho-Slovak Foreign Minister, to send fats and meat for 700,000 needy children.

Some of Mr Winston Churchill's paintings have arrived by air in the U.S. and a number of them will be reproduced in an American magazine.

GENERAL DE GAULLE has been unanimously elected Head of the Government by the French Constituent Assembly.

The Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to Mr Cordell Hull.

The United Nations Educational and Cultural Organisation has had Scientific added to its title and becomes UNESCO.

Secure packing and correct addressing of Christmas parcels will save much disappointment, and much work in "Heartbreak Corner" of the G.P.O.

The LCC Education Committee proposes a common entrance test for the 25,000 to 30,000 children who are to go to secondary schools in 1946. A large number of these boys and girls have only recently returned from evacuation so the new test is not to be difficult.

The G.P.O. has 20,000 bicycles, chiefly used by messenger boys.

Mrs Jessie Burgess, the new Mayor of Camberwell, asked the headmistress of the Mary Datchelor school to select a girl to be Mayoress. The girls of the school unanimously elected 16-year-old Pamela Phillips.

Mr Barnes, Minister of War Transport, explained in Parliament recently that under the Trunk Roads bill, Britain's new roads may have two carriage-ways at different levels, separate tracks for cyclists, and paths for pedestrians.

A fossilised Nipa palm, a tropical fruit tree, believed to be fifty million years old, has been dug up at Clapham, London. It was exhibited at the annual reunion of the Geologists' Association in London.

Troops were formed among boys in prison camps and disguised under "recreational activities." In this way practically every boy who was eligible became a Scout.

Northumberland Scouts are proud of their rose-hip collection. Of 24 tons received this year by the County Central Depot, 11 tons came from Scouts.

In many Boys Brigade companies Parents' Evening is now an annual event, affording an excellent opportunity for parents to learn something about the aims of the B.B. and the purpose of its many activities.

Harrow and Safety First

HARROW SCHOOL is playing its part in interesting older schoolboys and girls in the prevention of accidents on the roads. For it was at Harrow School on November 16 that a travelling road safety exhibition was opened by Mr G. R. Strauss.

This exhibition, designed to be shown to public, preparatory and secondary, schools, and to youth organisations, contains some interesting units, including some models devised by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. The exhibition closes on November 26 and is open to boys and girls from other schools in the district.

The Children's Newspaper, November 24, 1945

The Mountain Rescue Service

A WARTIME service which will be maintained in peacetime has come into the news. It is the R.A.F. Mountain Rescue Service, one engaging more than 200 qualified mountaineers whose duty was to locate and rescue the crews of aircraft which had crashed in the mountains.

The Service was formed in 1943 with one unit consisting of 30 men, but when the war ended there were more than 200 mountaineers, who had rescued 100 airmen from the dangers of the mountains of Cumberland, the Peak District, and in Scot-

land and Wales. Often they would scale the heights and walk for hours searching for the crashed plane and the crew, sometimes at the risk of losing their own lives. When the crew were found they were given food and immediate attention by the search-party before being taken back to the Rescue base, where more adequate attention could be given by staff doctors and nurses.

The great value of this Service has been recognised by the Air Ministry, and the R.A.F. Mountain Rescue Service is to be maintained at its present strength.

DAVID'S HALFPENNIES

DAVID STEER of Albaston, near Gunnislake in Cornwall, wanted to say "Thank you" in a big way during Thanksgiving Week. So he took a heavy bag with him to school and dumped it on the desk of the Savings' Secretary.

There was nothing but halfpennies inside. They took a lot of saving; a lot of counting, too! There were 3108 of them!

THE FIRST PATHAN VC

THE first Pathan to win the V.C. in the war, Sepoy Haidar Ali, took the place of honour in the Services Parade at the Albert Hall in the recent British Legion Festival of Remembrance.

The Pathans are tough, hardy, fierce men from the mountainous North-West frontier of India. The word Pathan is used to describe in general all those warlike Moslem tribes of this frontier region—the Afridis, the Wazirs, the Mohmands, Swatis, and so on—many of whom not long ago lived in an almost continuous state of warfare either with the British or with each other. But as soldiers in the Indian Army the Pathans are scrupulously loyal, dutiful, and truthful. For they are men with a high soldierly sense of honour.

Among the Indians the word Pathan also means an Afghan.

SPARE THE BADGER

EXPERTS of the Ministry of Agriculture have had to come to the rescue of the badger, which farmers are destroying by hundreds under the mistaken impression that they are the cause of most of the damage done to farm crops. But it has been proved, by recent investigations, that of 100 crimes by farm pests in a certain farming district only two could be attributed to the badger with certainty.

Salmon Sunday

THE expression Salmon Sunday does not imply that anyone visiting Paythorne Bridge near Gisburn, on a picturesque stretch of the River Ribbles in Yorkshire, will be served a free meal of fresh salmon. It does mean, however, that he who cares to make timely trek to Paythorne will be lucky enough to watch salmon wriggle their way through shallow water on their annual and instinctive return to spawning beds near this bridge.

The Sunday nearest the 20th of November is acknowledged as the best time for watching the salmon as they proceed up stream, although they can be seen for about five to six weeks at this time of the year. A delightful experience it is, too, to

watch spawning salmon bury in the shingle eggs which will hatch when the warm spring currents come along next year. A remarkable fact about the fish spawning in these beds is that a salmon will return to almost the exact spot where it came to life, in spite of the fact that none return until they are seven years old.

At Paythorne no attempt is made to catch the precious salmon. The reason being that it is illegal to catch spawning salmon. But, even with this protection, they do not all go scot-free, as the otter, which is a law unto itself, takes toll of many salmon during this instinctive return to the beds which gave them life.

THE BIBLE IN PORTUGAL

ONCE more an encouraging report has reached the British and Foreign Bible Society from Portugal. No fewer than 167,000 books were distributed last year, an advance of 35,000 over the previous year. Of this total the colporteurs sold 113,000.

Almost all the books sold by these travelling salesmen were Gospels; and the Bible Society hold that this indicates that the buyers are largely ignorant of Christianity and want a book that tells the story of Jesus.



Built in Britain For Argentina

This Short Sunderland Civil Flying Boat, the Argentina, seen here being launched at Belfast, is the first to be built in the British Isles for South America since the war. It is to serve with the famous Doderro shipping line of Argentina.

A SHIP WITH FOUR RUDDERS

A CURIOUS type of ship is engaged on ferrying duties with the Australian Army in the South-West Pacific. She is the Crusader, a flat-bottomed vessel with four rudders and six propellers.

The Australian Army needed a shallow draught ship which could run up the beach a greater distance than other vessels. The Crusader was hurriedly built to meet the need for carrying equipment straight on to the beach. She is now used as a ferry, transporting goods and troops.

A Tidal Wave

GREAT distress has been caused in a coastal district of Madras Province in India by a giant tidal wave 200 miles long, which swept in from the Bay of Bengal and spread over the countryside for a distance of from three to five miles inland.

The country here, roughly between the mouth of the Godavari River and the mouth of the Kistna, was one of rich ricefields, and the inundating salt water has not only destroyed stocks of food, but damaged the soil, which, it is feared, will not be able to grow rice again for about a year. The damage done is estimated to amount to millions of pounds. There is a food shortage as a result of this sea-flood and food has been sent into the stricken area from other districts.

NEW RADIO SETS

NEXT year 70 manufacturers will make a million radio sets, of which 600,000 will be sold on the home market, and the others sent abroad.

Before the war the number of sets made was about 1,400,000, of which only 66,000 were exported. There will be little new about the sets themselves except that the cabinets will be made of plastics instead of wood.

A New Conqueror of Disease

MALARIA, which is caused by virulent mosquitoes, is one of the most terrible of the world's scourges and is among the most deadly. For years scientists have been battling to overcome it. Quinine was, for a long time, the chief antidote; later came other remedies, including Mepacrine.

Now, a new and much more powerful drug called Paludrine has been discovered by a team of I.C.I. chemists and biologists, working in collaboration with the Medical Research Council, which bids fair to solve the

problem of how to cope with and defeat malaria.

Lord Leverhulme announced the discovery of Paludrine at the annual meeting of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, where clinical trials began last February.

Paludrine will soon be on the market. It is stated to be a simpler chemical compound than any anti-malarial drug previously known, and its discoverers are confident that it is the panacea for an affliction which has taken so great a toll of human life.

Within recent years we have had M and B 693, penicillin, and other boons and blessings from medical science. Paludrine looks like being a worthy addition to the grand list of discoveries.

A DICKENS WINDMILL

THE sails of another English windmill have ceased to revolve after many years of service. They are those of the windmill which Dickens wrote of in *Pickwick Papers*. It is at Delce near Rochester, a little way from the novelist's home, Gad's Hill Place. It was in use until last month when the late owner died. But it has since been sold and will be used as a store.

FORTUNE'S FAVOURS

POOR Boy Who Makes Good is a time-honoured theme of fiction writers. But this democratic age has made the theme one in which Truth is Stronger Than Fiction; in this respect fact has long outpaced fancy. Two outstanding examples are the new Mayor of New York, and the new Governor of Bengal.

The new mayor is Brig-General William O'Dwyer, who 35 years ago travelled steerage from his native Ireland and landed in America with only a pound or two to his name. The new Governor of Bengal is Mr Fred Burrows, a hefty Englishman who was once a railway porter, and will shortly leave his humble country cottage to take up residence in a palace (Government House, Calcutta) and be responsible for 60 million people.

COMMANDOLAND

MANY beautiful tributes have been paid to the Commando heroes, but probably none better than that by Mrs G. Lane, whose husband was a lieutenant with the 10th Commando and became a prisoner-of-war.

To keep alive the memory of the men and their deeds Mrs Lane has given 520 acres of woodland and field of the Ashton Wold estate, near Peterborough, to the National Trust.

Welsh and English

IT is a strange experience in our own land to find oneself surrounded by the truest of true Britons who cannot speak any English. Yet that can happen in some parts of Wales where there are still about 98,000 people who speak only Welsh. The total population of Wales is about two and a half millions; of this number, besides the 98,000 mentioned, there are 811,000 who can speak both Welsh and English, and there are one and half million Welshmen who cannot speak Welsh.

These interesting figures are given in a pamphlet recently issued by the Ministry of Education called *Language Teaching in*

Primary Schools (Stationery Office 9d).

The Ministry urges that all Welsh children should be encouraged to speak their ancient and beautiful tongue in which there is a wealth of literature. At the same time every Welsh child should receive an education that will enable him or her to earn a livelihood in any part of the country.

The Ministry recommends that children in nursery schools and infant schools throughout Wales should be taught in their mother tongue, Welsh or English as the case may be, and that the study of the alternative language should begin in the junior school.



Harvesting the Beet

These hardworking landgirls are lifting the crop of beet at Cheshunt. Beetroot helps to maintain our sugar ration and this year's crop in Britain promises to be a bounteous one.

THE FUTURE OF ARP

It is our sincere hope that the splendid body of wartime workers known as Civil Defence will never again be needed. Yet though our country is doing all that lies in its power to ensure future peace, it dare not neglect any part of its defences.

Mr Chuter Ede, the Home Secretary, spoke the other day in the House of Commons about the future of ARP.

In many respects the technique of civil defence was now out of date, he said. No one, he asserted, would be more pleased than the Government if they could repeal the Civil Defence Act, being satisfied that the risk of air attack upon this country had passed for all time, but, unhappily, the Government could not take that view.

The Government, Mr Ede went on to say, had directed that a careful study should be made of

the effects of recent forms of air attack. Missions had been sent to Germany and Japan to study the effects of bombs, particularly the atomic bomb, and in due course, he added, the Government would know a great deal more about the standard of shelter required and the type of organisation best fitted to deal with air attack in the future.

To meet the position outlined by Mr Ede, the Government have introduced the Civil Defence (Suspension and Powers) Bill, under which certain ARP obligations are to be suspended and others continued. Later, when a new technique has been devised, the whole question will be reviewed.

The Government alone are in a position to judge the true facts in matters of defence, and they must be trusted to do the right thing.

Exciting Film of the Sea

THE hardships of seafaring in the early part of the 19th century are again depicted in a film shortly to be released by Paramount. This picture is titled *Two Years Before the Mast*, and is based on a novel written in 1840 by Richard Henry Dana, junior.

Dana took a sea voyage to save his sight, and his book—which has been acclaimed as America's best book of the sea—was the outcome. Fiction based on fact makes the best subjects for the screen, writes the CN film correspondent, and this film is no exception. It is exciting throughout and is filled with action and all those other ingredients that go to make a good adventure story of the sea.

The story, briefly, tells how Charles Stewart, wastrel son

of the owner of the *Pilgrim*, is forced to service in his father's brig, on which Dana was a member of the crew. Here Charles comes under the command of Captain Thompson, a cashiered naval officer with a mania for record-breaking cruises, regardless of his crew. The First Mate is equally hard and gives the crew no rest. Often flogged, and half-starved, the crew mutiny, led by the shipowner's son. After a storm off Cape Horn and other dramatic incidents, the crew on landing are backed by Dana's written testimony and Stewart's full support, and are vindicated, and an Act is passed protecting the rights of American seamen.

The cast is good, and this is a good film of adventure, shorn of frills and trivialities.

Abyssinian Progress

It is now three years since the Emperor of Abyssinia was restored to his throne and began the task of reordering the life of his country.

One of his first undertakings was to root out the last vestiges of slavery. Legally, slavery does not exist, but Mr J. G. Grimwade, who has been in Abyssinia during the last three years, tells a CN correspondent that it has not been entirely eliminated.

In remote parts of the country he says that many urgent reforms are still needed. "The prison system needs reforming urgently. The capital sentence is used frequently, and the bodies of notable criminals often displayed after death in market places for forty-eight hours. In many provincial towns the prisons are in an overcrowded and insanitary state, and in some the prisoners are dependent till after trial on the charity of friends for their food."

Doctors Needed

"The pressing need," Mr Grimwade continues, "is for doctors, and these can only be obtained from outside sources. The excellent Haile Selassie Hospital in Addis Ababa was closed on December 1, 1944, and cannot be reopened till a medical staff is found. When this is reopened there will be little danger of an actual shortage of hospital beds in Addis Ababa. To erect any new hospital buildings in the capital itself is unnecessary at a time when money could more profitably be spent on acquiring staff and equipment for what already exists. Outside Addis Ababa, however, there is a severe shortage of bed accommodation, and an even worse shortage of doctors—and no one will dispute that a doctor with an outpatients' clinic is of more practical value than Ethiopian dressers with a hospital that they have not the skill to organise efficiently."

"Another important point to consider is that by no means all of the country is readily accessible from Addis Ababa, and little information even now is forthcoming from the more remote areas, where one can but imagine that even less exists in the way of social services."

Abyssinia is only slowly emerging from medieval conditions. The Emperor, who is determined to transform his country into an efficient, well-governed state, needs above all the disinterested service of friends both inside and outside the country.

FROM AIRCRAFT TO FOOTCRAFT

ONE of our biggest aircraft manufacturing plants during the war was that at the Dunlop factory at Speke, near Liverpool. From there came great Halifax bombers.

Now the factory is being turned to the production of peace needs. It is turning out 500,000 pairs of Wellington boots and 750,000 pairs of plimsolls for the Christmas market. These will be followed by motor and cycle tyres and inner tubes, golf and tennis balls. To help in the production of synthetic rubber about 200,000 lbs of old rubber tyres have been ground down.

The EDITOR'S TABLE

Prime Minister and Press

FOR international co-operation there must be a free flow of news. It is to the independent reporting of events that the ordinary people of all nations look chiefly for their understanding of each other.

This appraisal of the functions of the Press was given the other day by the Prime Minister to members of the Newspaper Society.

As far as the Government was concerned, said Mr Attlee, they would try their best to give the Press the facts; and he concluded: "We shall, through Parliament and the Press, endeavour to explain what we are doing and why we are doing it. And I am confident that even when you disagree with us—as some of you no doubt sometimes will—you will, in accordance with that tradition which is the proudest heritage of serious British journalism, put the facts before your readers in order that they may come to their own considered judgments."

Firstly, the presentation of facts; secondly, liberty of comment—these are the principles on which British newspapers work, and will continue to work.

The Roll of the Drums

MR CHURCHILL has recently confessed that when young he always wanted to play the kettledrum.

Doubtless that ambition was an early expression of the martial spirit which was later to lead his country triumphantly through its greatest trial; but it was also an urge that many lesser men shared with him in their youth, and an urge that still burns strong in youth today. The roll of drums has an enduring fascination for great men and lesser men alike.

CARRY ON

MEMORIES

THE poetry of earth is ceasing never,
On a lone winter evening, when the frost
Has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills
The cricket's song in warmth increasing ever
And seems to one in drowsiness half lost
The grasshopper's among some grassy hills. *Keats*

Strength From Nature

It is not possible for a Christian man to walk across so much as a rood of the natural earth with mind unagitated and rightly poised, without receiving strength and hope from some stone, flower, leaf, or sound.

John Ruskin

ROUND THE WORLD

TEN miles a minute!

To the Meteor men has fallen the distinction of raising the air speed record to this astounding figure. Group Captain H. J. Wilson averaged 606½ m p h for the four laps of the test course and Mr Eric Greenwood's speed was 603 m p h. Both travelled at almost four-fifths the speed of sound.

Efficiency of design of both planes and jet engines, plus the skill of the pilots, enable such terrific speeds to be attained, but when an aeroplane approaches the speed of sound the air begins to play queer tricks with the wings. The men who make such flights are pioneers.

Wind on

THE recent gales which swept Britain have blown themselves into headlines, getting priority over the storms of humanity, but rarely does one meet a writer who dares to sing praises of high winds; yet when John Ruskin visited the Craven Highlands, he had courage not only to extol Nature's fury on the fells, but to dare the criticism of his unromantic contemporaries as well, when he wrote:

To get full expression of the very heart, and the meaning of

Under the E

A LADY had to take three clocks to be repaired. They wouldn't go. *PETER WANTS!*

ELECTRICAL workers are to get extra wages. Because of current prices.

A COUNCILLOR is described as a model public servant. A working model.

HOUSEWORK is said to be a labour of love. Some people hate it.

A LADY says she dines out twice a week. A bit chilly. *If la mar water.*

Travelling

It is no doubt a great privilege to visit foreign countries; to travel say in Mexico or Peru, or to cruise among the Pacific Islands; but in some respects the narratives of early travellers, the histories of Prescott or the voyages of Captain Cook, are even more interesting; describing to us, as they do, a state of society which was then so unlike ours, but which now has been much changed and Europeanised.

WHAT TIME COME

WHAT time will tomorrow start,
At one, or two, or three?
Will it come the mountain way
Or sail in from the sea?
Will it come with skies still dark
Or when the sun shines clear?
Oh! what time will tomorrow start?
What time will day appear?

D IN 24 HOURS?

indeed, venturing into the unknown, and it may be that their daring will result in startling changes in the shape of planes to come. Experts believe that this will be necessary before man can venture beyond the speed of sound—760 m p h at sea level.

That is the goal, and experience has taught that a goal clearly seen is soon reached, just as the record performance of one decade is the commonplace of the next. When the boys and girls of today are middle-aged they may be able to encircle the globe inside 24 hours, leaving sound well behind them all the way!

the Fells

wind, there is no place like a Yorkshire moor. If you lean on them you can rest as on a quick-set hedge. I shall not soon forget, having the good fortune to meet a vigorous wind, between Hawes and Settle, just on the flat, under Whernside, the vague sense of wonder with which I watched Ingleborough stand without rocking.

JUST AN IDEA

When in doubt, Silence is the best noise.

Editor's Table

PUCK
O KNOW

PARACHUTE material is being sold in London. Shoppers expect it to come down in price.

A MAN says to think of weeding the garden makes him lose heart. He should try to pluck up courage.

AN American has invented sardine-flavoured toffee. Sounds a bit fishy.

THE girl of the future will go far. But a miss has always been as good as a mile.

by Reading

Thus we may make our daily travels interesting, even though, like the Vicar of Wakefield's family, all our adventures are by our own fireside, and all our migrations from one room to another.

Moreover, even if the beauties of home are humble, they are still infinite, and a man "may lie in his bed, like Pompey and his sons, in all quarters of the earth."

Lord Avebury

YES TOMORROW?

Will it, from the far away
Come stealing down the sky,
Tripping over sea and hill
Where deepest shadows lie?
Child! none knows when new
days start
Yet this great truth I know . . .
For youth, all days too slowly
come,
For age, too quick they go!

Herbert Stoneley

A World Holiday

IN the United States American Thanksgiving Day is usually celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. It is a religious holiday.

An American Army officer has written to the Daily Telegraph suggesting that there should be an international, world-wide celebration of Thanksgiving Day. Can we not give more support to the cause of the United Nations by one day of combined thanksgiving than by all the meetings of diplomats? he asks. In August last the C.N. suggested that one day in the year should be set aside as a world holiday.

World peace and unity need solemn and collective dedication, not just once but regularly. Thus could spiritual strength be gathered for the greatest of all tasks facing the world.

The Nelson Family's Pension

THE British people's gratitude to Nelson for saving them from invasion by Napoleon Bonaparte's army was such that in 1806, after his death, they decided that an annuity of £5000 a year should be paid to every Lord Nelson who succeeded to the title in perpetuity. The annuity has been paid ever since, a total of £700,000 having been paid by British taxpayers.

The annuity is the only one of its kind still in existence.

This arrangement of maintaining from public funds the far distant, unborn descendants of a contemporary hero as a reward for deeds in which they can have no concern, seems a very extraordinary one today, but the award was considered quite right and proper at the beginning of the last century.

Now the question of reconsidering the Nelson pension has been raised in Parliament.

The present Lord Nelson, who is 87, lives near Salisbury, but there is no question of stopping the pension which he is receiving nor that of his brother who will be the next Nelson to get it.

THE RIGHT CHARITY

PROPORTION thy charity to the strength of thy estate, lest God proportion thy estate to the weakness of thy charity. Let the lips of the poor be the trumpet of thy gift, lest in seeking applause thou lose thy reward. Nothing is more pleasing to God than an open hand and a shut mouth.

Francis Quarles

A Prayer For Strength

GIVE me the strength lightly to bear my joys and sorrows.

Give me the strength to make my love fruitful in service.

Give me the strength never to disown the poor or bend my knees before insolent might.

Give me the strength to raise my mind high above daily trifles.

And give me the strength to surrender my strength to Thy will with love.

Rabindranath Tagore

Home From Sea

CAPTAIN STANTON PAGE, master of the children's missionary ship John Williams V, which, as C.N. readers know, sails among the Pacific Islands, is home in Britain after his wartime adventures.

Chatting with a C.N. correspondent, Captain Page, a young man under forty, said that one of his most exciting experiences was in sailing his small ship up to the Ellice Islands when the Japanese were only a few miles away in the Gilbert Islands. A plane flew over the ship at mast height and machine-gunned it, but there were no casualties.

Captain Page has seen his ship used to carry American sailors and British Government officials, as well as missionaries. On one occasion she acted as ferry-boat between a big American battleship and an island where the sailors had shore leave.

Guiding the Destroyers

His most exciting time was in the planning of the American attack on the Japanese stronghold of Tarawa. The captain was flown from Fiji to Pearl Harbour and was there closely questioned about the coral reefs, lagoons, and tides round Tarawa which he knew so well. On the day of the attack he led the first American destroyer through the dangerous reefs into the Tarawa lagoon, and as the Japanese put down a heavy smoke screen he had to rely on his memory to guide the destroyers in the difficult landing. For his courage he was awarded the American Bronze Star.

Captain Stanton Page has been in the service of the London Missionary Society since 1938, when he volunteered to be first officer of the John Williams, and later he succeeded Captain Kettle as master of the ship. He lives in Fiji with his wife and three children, and regularly sails the ship up to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands to carry boys and girls to school. The ship is now fifteen years old, but the captain believes she is good for another five years at least. One of her officers is an efficient Gilbertese seaman, and the captain would like to have more Gilbertese among his officers. They make excellent sea-going men and love the ship which is doing so much for the welfare of the Gilbertese people.

THE LION AND THE KIWI

AN exciting match should be seen at Twickenham on Saturday when English Lions meet New Zealand Kiwis.

But these Kiwis will have wings and, as we read in last week's C.N., "kick hard with him leg," as the Lions will probably find out, making them wish that these Kiwis were like the bird—wingless.

The N.Z. side have proved very successful in the games played since their first, at Swansea, in October. The 29 players have all fought wherever New Zealanders have appeared in the great campaigns of the Near East and Africa, and three of them were prisoners-of-war. Some of them were due to return home, but gave up the chance to take part in this rugby tour.

PAST-MASTERS OF PASTIMES

EVERYONE who enjoys playing games, from Tiddley Winks to Table Tennis, should be interested in a 150th anniversary which has been quietly celebrated down Croydon way.

Towards the close of the 18th century the son of a Wiltshire farmer of Huguenot descent travelled up to London to seek his fortune. His name was Thomas Jaques.

Thomas became apprentice to a bone and ivory turner in Leather Lane, off Holborn, and rapidly made himself master of his chosen craft. At the age of 21, having married his late master's niece, he set up in business for himself, fully-fledged manufacturer of billiard balls, carved snuff-boxes, brushes, paper-knives, fans, and a host of other things fashioned in ivory, bone, and hardwoods.

In 1795, just a century and a half ago, Thomas issued his first business card, and in that same year his son John was born—John Jaques the First. John duly served his apprenticeship, and at 21 became his father's partner in a business which by then had overflowed into Hatton Garden. An advertisement of 1838 tells of the astonishing variety of their wares and includes the curious item: Dentists Supplied with Sea Horse Teeth!

But games were already their great speciality, and it was John Jaques the First who designed an improved set of chessmen which have remained the standard form to this day. This set, named after a famous English chess player, Howard Staunton, won immediate and lasting success; but few of the millions who play this game can be aware that the knight was a faithful copy of the horse's head of the Elgin Marbles, sculptured by Phidias.

John Jaques the Second gained fresh laurels (and new orders) for the firm by introducing

croquet into this country. Croquet, billiards, bagatelle, dominoes, chess, draughts, bowls—all these established games were, and have remained, a prime concern of the House of Jaques—Games are their Work!

But they have also invented games, and there can hardly be anyone in the land above the age of three who has not found delight in them. Everyone who has triumphed over all the hazards and arrived first at the winning-post in Ludo; everyone who has flicked bone counters into a wooden cup and shown himself supreme master of the art of Tiddley-winks; everyone who has fallen and climbed, again and again and again, while playing Snakes and Ladders; everyone who has found fun in these simple delights owes it all to this firm who devised and introduced them.

Happy Families was another invention of theirs; and they are proud to recall that the original characters were specially drawn for them by Sir John Tenniel. Mr Grits the Grocer, Mr Pots the Painter, and all the rest of that alliterative crew first made their bow as pictured by the famous Punch artist, a distinction they share with Immortal Alice and the friends of her Wonderland.

The firm is now reigned over by John Jaques the Fourth, who has inherited all the fine family craftsmanship; it was he who made the exquisite miniature chessmen for Queen Mary's Doll's House. Under his guidance the business looks back on past achievements with pride, and forward to new achievements with confidence.

Where the Countryman Lives

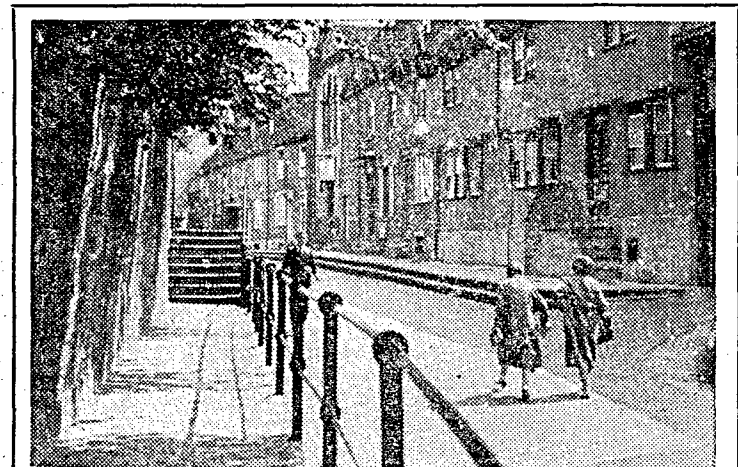
THE Housing Survey now being carried out in rural districts has produced figures showing the urgent need for new homes.

Of 1000 dwellings inspected in one rural district, only 12 were passed as "fit," 183 were marked "unfit for repair," and 771 had major defects. An analysis of the dwellings shows that country cottages are still damp, badly lit and ventilated, low-pitched, and have unsatisfactory drainage and water supplies.

That some village schools are

just as bad as the cottages is shown by the statement made by a political candidate at a meeting in Kent. He said that he knew a school which was so badly lit that if a girl dropped a stitch while knitting, she had to go outside to pick it up.

We all hope that the plans now being made for the building of new houses and new schools in the country villages will soon be put into operation, so that our people may no longer have to live and learn in such discomfort.



THIS ENGLAND

A street in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire

IN EIRE'S CAPITAL

A CN correspondent has been visiting Dublin and here records his impressions of the capital of Eire, a country which Mr de Valera has again declared to be a Republic.

To fly over Dublin a few hundred feet up in one of Eire's handsome cross-channel planes is to see a city of broad streets with the green-coppered dome of the great Custom House dominating the view. To land at the elegant new airport is to be reminded that eighteenth-century Dublin has one of the most modern approaches.

What city in the British Isles has a more splendid set of buildings than Dublin—Post Office, Custom House, Four Courts, Trinity College, and Bank of Ireland? Here is grace and dignity set down by the broad Liffey or by the spacious grandeur of O'Connell Street. The English may have made many mistakes in their long relations with Ireland, but their planning and building have given Eire a handsome capital.

It was a privilege to be shown round the building of the Dail and to notice in the debating chamber that the Government sit on the left of the speaker and not on the right as in the British House of Commons. On one doorway was a card bearing the name of Erskine Childers, son of the author of the Riddle of the Sands who was a republican and was shot by the Free State Government in 1922. That name was a sorrowful reminder of the unhappy things in Ireland's story.

Any Englishman walking down one of Dublin's broad thoroughfares is reminded constantly that he is really in a foreign country. Every street name is in Erse, with an English translation, and the official announcements are in the Irish tongue; the stamps and coinage bear Irish symbols.

On Sundays large crowds listen to enthusiastic orators instilling the need to learn Irish.

Eire receives the ministers of the various foreign legations accredited to her with much ceremony. We watched the Spanish minister on his way to be received by the President, Mr Sean O'Kelly. A posse of fifty hussars in the green and gold of the Republic trotted before and after the motor-car, with the sun flashing on their plumes and drawn swords.

While Eire's back is turned on things English in speech and custom, the wisest of her leaders know that she cannot turn her back on England economically. She is linked very closely with the economic prosperity of England. Her coal, iron, steel, and machinery of all kinds, so sorely needed, must come across the Irish Sea. She must export more to Britain and so build up her trade balances to make purchases for herself.

Dublin's two theatres which produce Irish plays—the Abbey and the Gate theatres—are active and draw large houses. At the Abbey Theatre Sean O'Casey's play *The Plough and the Stars*—a story of Dublin tenements—has many sly references to England. Every one of them was eagerly cheered by the audience.

It was a reminder of the grim determination to remember the past—but it was also a reminder of the poverty of Dublin and the slums which lurk behind the fine streets of the city. Outside the theatre small boys in bare feet were selling evening papers, and a flag day was in progress for "Dublin's Poor."

Test Cricket Again

THE MCC's decision to send a team to Australia next autumn has warmed the hearts of Australians and Englishmen alike. The fight for the mythical Ashes is to be resumed after eight years.

All cricketers in Australia know that the England selectors will have a difficult task in choosing a team; but the Melbourne Herald reflects their thoughts when it says: "Although England may be unable to assemble its best Test team so soon after the war, the tradition of the game has, as usual, counted for more than the consideration of merely making sure of the Ashes."

That England will field her best team is unlikely, but there will be the chance of building for the future. During the war our most promising young men had little chance to improve their play, and although the past season saw the return of first-class cricket, the lack of experienced youth was plainly evident, particularly against Hassett and his Australians in the unofficial Tests.

In those matches, however, the selectors gave some promising players a chance to shine, among them Griffith (who may be our next captain), Robertson, Phillipson, Roberts, and three men still in their teens—Cart, Dewes, and White. While not all were successful, they did at least show signs of becoming thorns in Australia's side.

England on Top

What of England's old and trusted players of pre-war years? It is interesting to look back to the last Test Match played, in 1938. In that game, at Kennington Oval, England's 903 for 7 wickets, and Hutton's 364 runs were the highest scores ever made in Test cricket. Of that team only Hutton, Edrich, Compton, and Hardstaff still have youth on their side; Hammond (the captain), Leyland, Wood, and Paynter are in the veteran stage; Bowes, at 37, who has suffered severe privations in a prisoner-of-war camp, cannot be expected to get back to his old speed as a fast bowler; and the remaining two of the team, Hedley Verity of Yorkshire and Kenneth Farnes of Essex, laid down their lives on the battlefield.

Just after the First World War the team England sent to Australia lost every Test Match. But even if the same fate is experienced by our team next year, sportsmen all over the world will feel that it was better to have played and lost than never to have played at all.

MEAT CARGOES

BEFORE the war thirty-seven large refrigerated liners carried meat and dairy produce from Australia and New Zealand to Britain. Eighteen ships were lost during the war. There were some replacements, so there are now twenty-four vessels available.

Eight new vessels are to be added to this fleet of meat ships in the next two or three years. Three of these, one of 11,000 tons and two of 10,000 tons, will be available next year.

The total cost of the eight new vessels is estimated to be in the region of £7,000,000.

URANUS COMING CLOSER

THE planet Uranus is now becoming well placed for observation in the evening, writes the CN Astronomer. The planet may be found high up in the south-east sky, appearing a little way to the north-east of the Hyades star-cluster.

These stars, arranged somewhat in a V shape, will be readily identified together with the brilliant reddish Aldebaran. But Uranus appears to the eye no brighter than the faintest of the Hyades and so careful searching will be necessary. If glasses, even only opera glasses, are available they will help considerably. The broken circle on the star map represents approximately the area of the sky that will appear in the field-of-view of the glasses, and of course more stars will then be seen than are

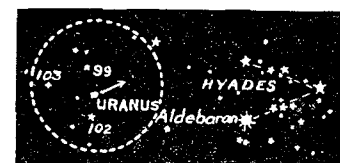
features we would see a rapidly-revolving sphere with belts of varying shade, in which green would predominate. These would be cloud belts very similar to those on Jupiter and Saturn, and the belts would be seen to vary, even from hour to hour, because Uranus rotates very rapidly in about 10½ hours. So any marking or detail such as storm rifts in the clouds—and we should see many—would pass across the great disc of Uranus in about five hours; that is, if Uranus was appearing to us as a "full moon." At other times Uranus would present phases just as our Moon does, and what a grand spectacle they would be if Uranus were as near as our Moon and, in fact, took its place; indeed, there would be no room for the gravitational pull of both as separate bodies, for Uranus is about 1200 times heavier or more massive than our Moon.

Moreover, if Uranus were so near to us, our world would have to go round Uranus, for not only has it nearly four times the diameter—30,900 miles, compared with Earth's 7927 miles—but it is also about 14½ times heavier than the Earth.

Gravitation at Work

This greater mass of Uranus would pull our much less massive little world towards it, and it would depend upon the Earth's speed and direction as to whether it escaped falling into Uranus. However, Uranus is never likely to come so near, though he is pulling our world a little more than usual at the present time. This is because Uranus is nearer this year than he has been for about 30 years. He will continue to come nearer to us for about another twelve years. These years are therefore exceptionally good for observing Uranus because of his greater proximity, which reaches some 80 million miles above the average, and also because his high altitude presents his disc at its best for telescopic study.

G. F. M.



Where to find Uranus, the arrow indicating the planet's motions

shown on the map, but the brightest, including Uranus, will be those within the circle.

Uranus now appears almost midway between the stars marked 102 and 99, and as he appears just about as bright as 102 he should be readily recognised. An additional means of identifying Uranus for certain will be to note his progress toward the right. During the next couple of months this will amount to the extent of the arrow shown on the star map; so it will be quite obvious how Uranus will get out of alignment with the stars 102 and 99. The dark and moonless nights of the coming fortnight will provide a good opportunity for observing this very far-off planet.

On December 7 Uranus will be at his nearest to the Earth for this year—1698 million miles away. He is, in fact, the farthest world that it is possible to perceive with the naked eye. If Uranus were as near as the Moon we should see a great sphere fifteen times wider than the Moon appears to us; and instead of always displaying the same face with the same definite

The Dutch and the Indonesians

HOLLAND has declared her policy towards the Indonesian people of the Netherlands East Indies, those great and rich islands south-east of Asia which constitute her Empire. There, in the island of Java, a rebellion has been going on against the return to Dutch rule now that the Japanese invaders have been defeated.

Under the Dutch Government's new proposals, made in a Declaration of Policy, Indonesia would become a Commonwealth partner of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; this Commonwealth would be ruled by a democratic representative assembly with a majority of Indonesian members, and a Council of Ministers under a Governor-General representing the Netherlands Crown.

To hammer these proposals into a shape acceptable to the Indonesians it is proposed that a round table conference shall be called very soon. Racial discrimination between Indonesians

and Dutchmen is to be abolished and the official languages of the new Commonwealth are to be Indonesian and Dutch.

There is to be a reformation of Indonesia's educational system so as to eliminate illiteracy, and all races are to combine in the Defence Forces.

As the CN pointed out in a recent article on Java, Holland has here a problem that demands tact and patience, and it is heartening to see that our Dutch friends have taken the first step towards solving the problem. The present proposals are somewhat vague and are hardly likely, as they stand, to satisfy the natural ardent aspirations of the Indonesians to self-government. But it is to be hoped that the sincere and well-educated leaders of the people of tropical Indonesia will show themselves willing to co-operate with the enterprising Europeans who, after all, have done much to give Java the prosperity it enjoyed before the war.

BEDTIME CORNER

The Mirror

A VAIN old lady looked at herself in a new mirror and was very annoyed to see a lot of wrinkles on her forehead.

"This new glass is not worth a farthing," she said in disgust. "They cannot make mirrors nowadays as well as they used to do when I was young."

PICTURED PROVERB



Cut coat according to the cloth's
Advice that's very wise,
So make it straight and simple
And be correct in size.

ANN PLAYS AT DRESSING-UP

SOMETIMES on a rainy day, we must stay indoors and play, Or we'd get all wet you see, Pip the puppy, Don, and me. When we've tired of all our toys and Mummy says "Don't make a noise," Because she wants a little rest, then dressing-up's what we like best.

Don he likes to be a clown and wear Dad's crimson dressing gown.

On Pip we tie a scarlet bow, he's taken first prize at a show.

I wear a lovely shawl of lace and put some powder on my face,

A fine silk hanky in my hand, I look a lady, fine and grand.

When Mummy sees us she will say, "Why, who are these strange people, pray?"

And then we'll jump and shout with glee, "It's Pip the puppy, Don, and me."

Prayer

TEACH me, O Lord, to live the happy way—with calmness, candour, consideration, courage, and cheerfulness—for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

EDUCATION IN INDUSTRY

THE science of the industrial arts, or technology, is very much a matter of the moment and of the future. It is vital to the prosperity of Britain and the whole world.

A Special Committee was appointed in April, 1944, with Lord Eustace Percy as chairman, to consider the needs of higher technological education in England and Wales, and the contribution to be made by the universities and technical colleges. This committee has now issued its report (Stationery Office, 6d).

The committee state that if Britain is to keep her place as a leading industrial nation, there must be a larger output of qualified men from the universities and technical colleges; also that the greatest deficiency in British industry is the shortage of scientists and technologists who can administer and organise and can apply the results of research to development.

There is urgent need, the committee maintain, for a national campaign to increase the prestige of the technical professions, and to counteract the impression that the road to responsible executive posts does not lie through those professions. Such a campaign, they think, should be specially directed towards the big public schools, and also to the great majority of secondary schools, where the future careers of the students are decided upon. Close co-operation between industry and education on the one hand, and between universities and technical colleges on the other, is strongly advocated. Eight Regional Advisory Councils and

a National Council are proposed so as to co-ordinate the work.

As an outstanding example of the needs of industries, the annual output of 2700 engineers during the war, must, say the committee, be maintained for the next ten years. The universities are likely to produce about 1200 engineering graduates a year; the technical colleges therefore must produce about 1500 engineers.

A new type of technical college course providing periods of full-time study is considered to be necessary; the course to be equivalent in standard to that for a University degree.

Better Chances For Youth

The committee also point out that the highly trained technician is often ignorant of the principles of industrial organisation and management and should be introduced to these subjects towards the end of his undergraduate course, with refresher courses later.

A strong plea is made that industry should enable promising employees to take full-time courses at universities and technical colleges, including those who entered industry at an early age, and that it should be made easy for boys to return to full-time education no matter how young they were when they entered industry. For this purpose it is suggested that the National Scholarship system should be adopted, and the State Bursary scheme continued.

It is for the Government now to consider and act upon the report. Financial help to enable British industry to use scientific research, has already been announced. But the Percy Committee's plans are much wider than that. They point a way to greater industrial efficiency, enterprise, and prosperity.

Book Week in Moscow

THE Children's Book Week has become an annual festival in Moscow, and a special treat this year were the shows arranged in the Trade Union House—matinees for the younger ones, and evening shows for the older schoolchildren.

On the stage a huge book of fairy tales opened to reveal a scene from the late Alexei Tolstoy's Little Golden Key, a version of Punchinello. To the delight of the young audience, Buratino, that funny little wooden doll, stepped out of the magic book with a poodle. When the book closed Samuel Marshak, Soviet poet and translator of many English nursery rhymes, recited some of his poems. More than once the children joined in when they heard the verses they had known from the cradle.

Then the book opened again and this time the popular Russian fairy-tale character, Ivan the Fool, from Yarshov's Little Hunchbacked Horse, stepped out. Gasps of wonder greeted the appearance of the wonderful bird of paradise that flew about the stage until Ivan captured it. To the utter astonishment of all the children, and the obvious consternation of some, the bird of paradise turned into a princess and the ragged, tousled Ivan became

Turkey's Able Women

TURKEY is determined to be in line with every other nation in developing technical education. Bay Rüstü Uzel, Turkish Under-Secretary of State for Technical Education, has been visiting this country to study our methods. Before he left he not only praised highly British achievements in the field of technical education, but gave some very interesting details about the share of Turkish women in this and other branches of education.

The figures he gave are amazing, for up to the end of the last century few of the highest class Turkish ladies could read or write, and it is not many years since women were obliged to walk in the streets with their faces partly hidden by a veil or yashmak. Now, there are 40 girls' technical institutes in Turkey as against 55 for men. Nearly all schools in Turkey today are co-educational, but there are secondary educational institutes solely for women.

Now that the long centuries of domestic enslavement are over, Turkish girls show great enthusiasm for learning. After leaving school many of them are training to be doctors, lawyers, teachers, architects, and engineers. Already there are quite a number of women judges and barristers in Turkey as well as women MPs, and the number of women professors is increasing daily.

Our enthusiastic Turkish visitor described how his fellow-countrymen today are doing all in their power to improve primary education. Schools are being built at the rate of one thousand a year. Turkey's aim is not to leave one uneducated child in any of the most remote villages.

The Turks, in old times the terror of Europe, now show every sign of becoming one of the most enlightened of all nations.

Prince Charming before their very eyes.

When little Red Riding Hood skipped out of the magic-book and danced by herself with a basket of flowers, the young audience was further delighted. But a dead silence fell over the house when she was followed by the big bad wolf.

The book closed again, and then Sergei Mikhailov read his poems. Mikhailov is a hero to Soviet children, for not only has he written literally hundreds of poems for them, but, was also part author of the Soviet State anthem.

Grace and humour ran high in the scene from Samuel Marshak's dramatisation of a very old Russian fairy-tale about insects and animals who set up house-keeping together; and there was a fitting climax as Don Quixote, in full armour, came marching down the aisle between the seats, sword in one hand and a huge book in the other.

Apart from entertaining the children and popularising the works of Soviet authors, these shows teach children to love and take care of books. Like grown-ups the world over, children feel a special interest in the works written by people they have met.

A TRUE WORLD CITIZEN

THE world owes a great debt to Switzerland for the International Red Cross, the idea of Henri Dunant, a Swiss. Another international movement which has its roots in that same brave country is brought to mind by the death last month of Pierre Ceresole, of the International Voluntary Service for Peace.

Pierre Ceresole was the son of a former President of the Swiss Confederation. He and his brother served in the Cadets—similar to our Officers Training Corps—but Pierre early had his mind on work for peace. When he inherited £4000 he gave it all away to the Pestalozzi Foundation for Education, and then set out to educate himself further, which he did by travelling and working abroad, at one time as a teacher of English in Honolulu, at another at the oil wells of the Pacific Coast of America. Back at home he refused to pay the military tax and served repeated prison sentences.

Good Deeds Everywhere

His refusal was on Christian grounds, but he always looked on pacifism as a constructive, not a negative force. In his own country he advocated the offer of service to the State—one should not wait to be compelled. When an international service of volunteers of all countries—who would serve any country in need—was suggested at the International Fellowship of Reconciliation conference at Bilthoven in Holland in 1920, it was natural that Pierre Ceresole should be asked to organise it. So the International Voluntary Service for Peace was born. Its

members cleared the debris of an avalanche at Vers L'Eglise in Switzerland, and "tidied up" after a landslide in Ticino: by 1928 there were 710 of them, from 22 countries, who helped to rehabilitate flooded land in Liechtenstein. Their help to the French village of Lagarde brought them a money gift which was used to pay for part of the swimming pool they constructed, together with local unemployed, at Brynmawr in Wales. Pierre and one or two helpers were in India after the Bihar earthquake, assisting the peasants to rebuild huts on safer ground. In this country the IVSP has held numerous summer work camps.

He made a public protest in Church when an Army order forbade any newspaper criticism of war as un-Christian; and he crossed the Swiss frontier illegally in 1942 with the intention of going to Berlin to plead with Nazi authorities there. He did not get to Berlin; he was arrested and imprisoned for three weeks in Germany.

Pierre Ceresole joined the Society of Friends in Switzerland, and he seemed to many who knew him very like the early Friends, who ignored the probable consequences to themselves when they had "a concern" to do anything for God.



Happier days ahead

Life is a voyage of discovery these days—providing new wonders and fresh interests . . . a strange world unfolding before questioning eyes.

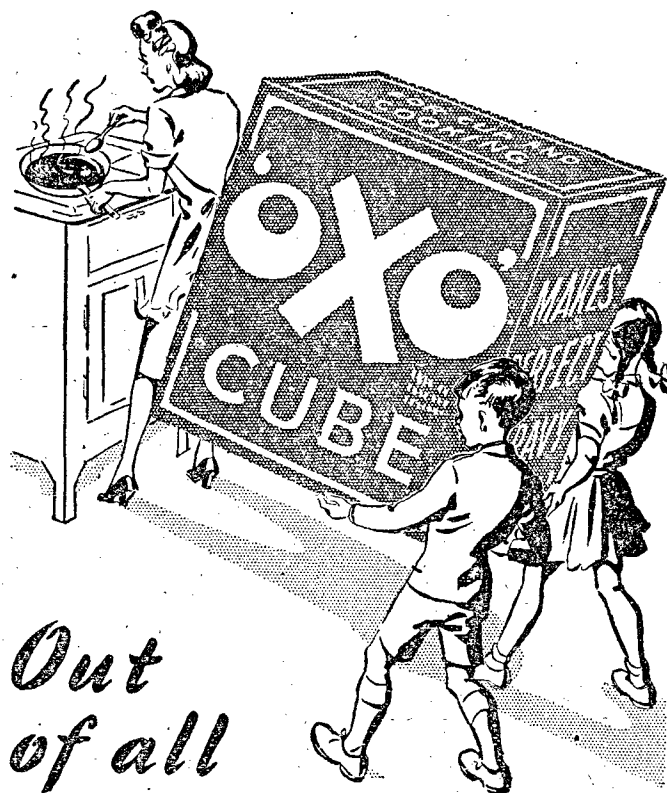
Although wartime robbed him of many childhood joys, there is one thing—good health—he did not miss.

Thanks to Mother, 'Milk of Magnesia' helped to keep him fit and free from stomach troubles throughout those anxious times.

In the happier days ahead 'Milk of Magnesia' will remain your stand-by—never absent from the medicine cabinet.

'MILK OF MAGNESIA'

'Milk of Magnesia' is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.

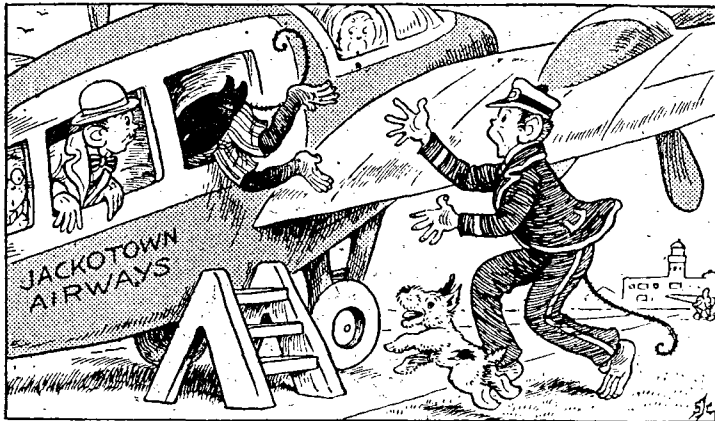


Out of all proportion...

Gravy made with OXO is improved out of all proportion

THE BRAN TUB

Jacko Plans a Free Trip



JACKO, seeing Brother Adolphus off by plane, longed to go too. "When they're just going to start," he thought, "I'll pop in." Soon the pilot inside the plane shouted, "Well, I'm ready..." and Jacko dived through the window. Then the pilot finished his sentence, "... but my assistant's not, so we'll have to wait!" An official soon came to haul poor Jacko out. It was not his lucky day.

WELL WORN

MAYOR: Don't you think that was a good story I told at the beginning of my speech? Candid Friend: Very good—it always was my favourite joke.

Lie-a-Beds Note This

IN the average lifetime of three score years and ten, the difference between getting up at 6 o'clock and 8 o'clock in the morning is over fifty-one thousand hours, or nearly six years.

Think what a lot could be done in that time!

DEPENDABLE and safe

Lixen is vegetable in composition and entirely devoid of unpleasant after-effects. Its natural action in promoting regularity of the system is produced by an extract of senna pods made gentle and palatable by a special process which removes harshness.

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The Good-Natured Laxative

SHORTHAND

DUTTON ONE-WEEK SHORTHAND is accepted by the Services and examining bodies. Learnt in 12 2-hour lessons. Send 3d. Stamps for First Lesson. Write Dept. C.N. 92-3, Great Russell St. W.C.1.

IN ONE WEEK

No Grounds For Complaint

"HAVE you anything to say against the coffee, sir?" asked the waiter as the customer put aside his cup, unfinished. "Not a word!" was the solemn reply. "I never speak ill of the absent."

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Robin's Pincushion. On the wild-rose bush, gay with scarlet hips, were a number of pretty, reddish-coloured, moss-like growths.

"Oh, pick some for me, please, Don!" cried Ann.

"All right," responded her brother good-naturedly. "I wonder what they are?"

"Rose-galls," said Farmer Gray, who had joined the children in time to hear Don's question.

"They are made by small insects known as Gall-Wasps. If you cut one open you will find several white grubs inside. These are the larvae of the Gall-Wasp, and each has a separate cell of its own.

"They are commonly called Robin's Pincushions."

AN ODD SUM

IF from six you take nine,
And from nine you take ten,
This seems rather strange, I must own;
And if fifty from forty
Be taken, why then
You'll leave half a dozen alone.

Answer next week

Lost Property

AT a bus company's lost property office a hundred more articles were handed in during October than in September, and the daily average for October was three higher than in the previous month.

How many things were lost in September?

Answer next week

LANDSCAPE LANGUAGE

VALLEY. There are more than a dozen different words for valley, a particular part of the country being suggested by the term used.

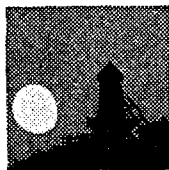
There is the dale of the North, the glen or den of Scotland, the nant or glyn of Wales, and the coomb or combe—the short valley running up from the coast—of the West Country.

A dell is a little valley with tree-clad sides; a chine a narrow and deep ravine; a gill or ghyll,

chiefly used in Scotland, a narrow valley with a stream; while a shallow valley is called a slack; a steep valley, usually with a torrent bed, a clough; a narrow opening, generally with a stream, between steep mountains or hills, a gorge; the track or road between high mountains, a pass or hause; a small valley or green spot in a dale, a haw; and there is the word vale, now mostly used poetically or in place names.

Other World

IN the morning Venus and Jupiter are in the south-east, and Saturn and Mars are in the south. In the evening Mars and Saturn are low in the east, and Uranus is in the south-east. The picture shows the moon at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21.



The Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, November 21, to Tuesday, November 27

WEDNESDAY, 5.15 Regional Round: Have pencils and paper ready and join in with teams all over the country to answer questions posed by Mac. 5.55 Prayers.

THURSDAY, 5.15 The Old Curiosity Shop (Part 7).

FRIDAY, 5.15 A concert by Danish children, presented by Marianne Helweg, and specially recorded for Children's Hour by the Danish State Radio in Copenhagen. 5.45 A Plague of Mice. North, 5.15 The Brydon's at Smugglers' Creek—Part 1, Dolphin Cottage.

SATURDAY, 5.15 Monsieur Sequin's Coat; followed by William Aspdon discussing things he has seen and heard in the

country. North and Northern Ireland, 5.15 Myles Standish—the story of a man who sailed on the Mayflower. Midland, 5.15 Spitfire Test—Description and commentary on the tests of a Spitfire. West, 5.15 Roy Roger (Part 4).

SUNDAY, 5.15 The Castle of Devezes.

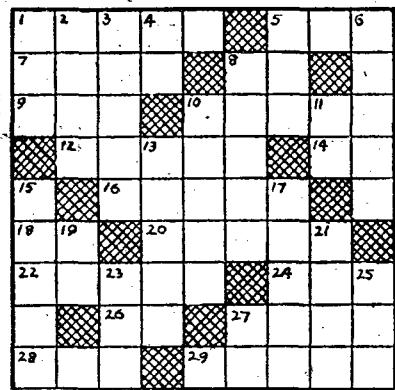
MONDAY, 5.15 The True Tale of Timothy Tortoise. 5.30 Songs. 5.45 Film talk by Eric Gillett. North and Northern Ireland, 5.15 The Week's Programmes; followed by Stuff and Nonsense—Funfare on the Air. West, 5.15 The West-Country Singers. 5.45 Basic Home.

TUESDAY, 5.15 Flit Wallah—a story from India; followed by Music for Two Pianos; and Pencil and Paper—more puzzles, questions and catches. Welsh, 5.15 Programme in Welsh.

Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 To cut into very small pieces. 5 This, filled with 1 will be in demand next month. 7 A desert dweller. 8 Philadelphia. 9 Curved bone. 10 Loaded with a burden. 12 Pertaining to the Sun. 14 Myself. 16 To drip fat on meat in cooking it. 18 Old Testament. 20 Fashion. 22 State. 24 The bark of a dog. 26 You and me. 27 Erudition. 28 A hint on which to act. 29 Drake's favourite game.

Reading Down. 1 To spoil. 2 A flag in the garden. 3 An Eastern potentate. 4 Companion of the Bath. 5 Peace. 6 A duck yielding valuable down. 8 A social gathering. 10 Palatable. 11 A printer's measure. 13 Moulds on which shoes are formed. 15 Humorous. 17 The bend of the arm. 19 Trade Union. 21 A nobleman. 23 To seek justice by legal process. 25 Affirmative. 27 Behold. Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week



The Little Guardsman

THERE was a young Guardsman of Perth,
The smallest of soldiers on earth.
Said the drill sergeant, "Right,
We must add to your height,
For you're now just a subject of mirth."

LIFELIKE

"I DON'T like these proofs at all," said the client. "I look like an ape."
"You should have thought of that before you had the photographs taken," replied the photographer.

THE THREE MUSTARDEERS MEET A LION AT LARGE



A CONVICT had escaped from the prison two miles away. Joe Grundy driving alone in his car, was not therefore surprised when a man in warder's uniform sprang out of the hedge and signalled him to stop. "Sorry to trouble you, sir," he said, "but I must ask you for a lift." "Jump in then," exclaimed Grundy. After a ten minutes' run, Grundy was directed to turn off down a narrow lane little better than a cart track. "We'll stop here," said his passenger, "and we'll change clothes." With a shock Grundy realised that the man was an impostor, that he must be the escaped convict who, by some trick, had obtained a warder's uniform. Grundy sprang on him. The fight was fierce but short. Soon Grundy lay bound in the ditch, covered with the warder's uniform. At the wheel of the car, as it re-entered the main road, sat the convict dressed in Grundy's clothes. He chuckled. He would be far from danger before Grundy was found and the search was started for the car.

The convict drove towards the little station about 40 miles away. There he could catch a connection to the main line. A hundred yards from the station he abandoned the car and set out to walk the remaining distance.

It was unfortunate for him, however, that as he left the car the Three Mustardeers came out from the field behind him. "Strange!" said Roger, "why doesn't he go right up to the station in his car?" Jim pulled Roger and Mary back under cover. His eyes gleamed. "Don't you see who it is?" he exclaimed. "We helped to put him in prison. He's Leo the blackmailing Lion of the Zodiac League! The escaped convict!" Quickly they formed a plan.

To keep out of the convict's sight, they ran by a slightly roundabout way to the station. The train was in, and Leo was approaching the booking office. While Mary busied herself with pencil and paper, Roger and Jim dashed in front of him and started an

argument. The convict fumed and pushed. "Get out of my way. I want to catch that train," he stormed. "But I say we're going to..." Jim was explaining, when Roger interrupted with "We're not, we said we'd go..." "That was your idea, but I said..." Jim was replying, when Mary slipped between them and passed a note to the booking clerk. It read: "Man behind these boys is escaped convict. Help." Just then the train began to move out. The convict pushed the boys aside and dashed for it. The booking clerk met him and tried to stop him. The convict side-stepped and was just grabbing the handle of a carriage door when the guard, sensing some trouble, blew several sharp whistles. The train stopped. Leo turned and dashed for the station entrance, heading for Grundy's car. Jim picked a small heavy parcel from a station barrow. From a firm stand, and with well-directed aim, he threw it. The parcel caught Leo in the small of the back. With an agonised gasp, he stopped in his tracks, and sank to the ground. The Mustardeers and the booking office clerk pounced on him. Roger telephoned the prison from the booking office. There they held Leo till the arrival of the warders. The chief warder congratulating the boys, asked how they did it.

SAID JIM: "Simple as a mustard bath, as the man said when asked how he had got rid of his cold."



THE MUSTARDEERS' OATH

We will have mustard whenever we can get it. It makes good food taste better. It helps us to keep healthy and strong. We will have Mustard—



Colman's Mustard